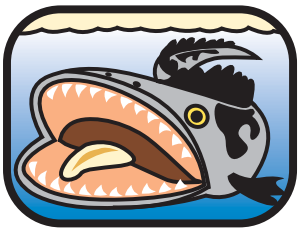

Native vs. Non-native Species: Who Will Win?

Non-native Plants in the Schoolyard

Name _____

Question: How many of the plants in our schoolyard are native to Virginia, and how many are non-native?

Hypothesis: I think _____% are native and _____% are non-native.

Procedures: Identify plants in your schoolyard, using tree, wildflower, and gardening plant guides. Find whether the plants are native or not by looking in the *Native Plants for Conservation, Restoration, and Landscaping* booklet, *Botanica* plant encyclopedia, or on the Internet at www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/invlist.htm. Work with other students to share your lists of plants. Finally, use the chart below to calculate the percents of native and non-native plants. List plants on the back of this sheet; write "N" next to native plants and "NN" next to non-natives.

Results:

# in each Group		Total plants		Decimal		Percent
_____ native	÷	_____	=	._____	x 100 =	_____% native
_____ non-native	÷	_____	=	._____	x 100 =	_____% non-native

Conclusions:

Are any of the non-native plants you found invasive? If so, which ones?

Which non-native plants come from areas that get more rainfall? What do we need to do to take care of them here?

Do any of the plants require extra fertilizer or pesticides?

What effects will this have on the quality and quantity of water resources in our watershed?